

GRACE CHURCH VISITOR

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE GRACE REFORMED CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL.

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CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR CONVENTION.

[Concluded from July issue.]

It will not be possible for us to give our readers a detailed account of the New York Convention. Delighted as we should be to do so, time and space will not allow us. We should be glad to tell you in detail of the inspiration and fellowship of these great assemblies of Christian people. What a delight it is to the Christian heart to enjoy the fellowship of so vast a company of God's children. What soul-stirring inspiration comes to the heart from such meetings. We should be glad to speak at length of the service of song at this convention. Twice ten thousand voices singing in unison praises unto our God. This melody of song came rolling down the corridors, aisles and platforms of that great assembly as the voice of many waters. We should be glad to tell you of the prayer-meetings; the prayers offered, brief, but fervent and effectual; of the testimonies given; of the renewed vows of consecration to Christ and the church.

To give a synopsis of the program, of addresses and speakers would require much time and space. But we can assure our readers that the addresses were of the very best, practical, pungent, spirited. The speakers were carefully selected, and were of the best talent in the country. Almost every phase of church life and activity, of moral and social reform was discussed at some point in the convention. It was evident from the spirit of this meeting that the great issues of the day, in social and moral reform, will be kept alive. The young people are decided that the Sabbath shall be kept holy, and that the war against intemperance and immorality shall continue, and shall be prosecuted with redoubled energy and determination. We are hopeful, we are confident, that many surprising, but long prayed for revolutions, in social life, will be brought about through the Christian Endeavor movement. It is unifying God's people and quickening the Christian conscience. From such a movement we have reasons to hope

for great achievements for Christ and for humanity.

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR MOVEMENT IN ITS RELATION TO THE CHURCH.

It was the original idea of the Christian Endeavor Society that it should be a training school for the young people of the church. To plan and systematize work for them, and to secure their spiritual nurture and growth in grace. The founder and supporters of the society have not been disappointed in their designs and expectations. As a training school there could be none better adapted for young Christians.

This movement is destined, however, to be far reaching in its influence and results. It has put enthusiasm into the hearts of the young people, and led them to a full and sincere consecration of themselves to their Lord and Master. But we are coming to recognize also that this movement is bringing about a genuine revival of religion throughout the whole church. What is the active member's pledge other than the consecration vow of every true child of God. Every true Christian will heartily endorse the spirit of this pledge and comply with its requirements. The inspiration of the young people has become a leaven of awakening and revival in the church. The older members are becoming electrified and are renewing their consecration vows unto the Lord. May we not hope that as many of the older members of the church have already caught the inspiration and become personally identified with the movement, so the whole Church may soon be led to imbibe this spirit of devotion to the Master and to his work. What activity, what persistent and untiring toil for the Master will then characterize the whole Church. What cheerful and liberal giving. Think of it, when once the whole Church shall subscribe to the active members pledge and carry into execution the spirit of this vow, "Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength, I promise Him that I will strive to do whatever He would like to have me do." Truly, when the Church will once thus be obedient to the

Master's will, then will come about the speedy evangelization of the whole world. We entertain the hope that this movement will bring about a great revival throughout the whole church, and a sincere and hearty consecration of all God's professed children unto Christ and the church.

We cannot refrain from anticipating what grand results the Christian Endeavor movement will achieve for the future church. Dr. Philip Schaff, the great theologian and church historian, said in a brief address at the New York convention, "The future church historian will come from the Christian Endeavor Society." Dr. Schaff speaks with great authority, and no one will question his prophecy. But it is also true that the future ministry, and the future missionaries will come from the Christian Endeavor Society, and is it not true that these consecrated servants of the Lord are already coming from this source?

At the late convention some speaker raised the question as to what proportion of the teachers in our Sabbath schools were members of the Christian Endeavor Society. Wishing a solution of this problem from the delegates present, he requested all who were teachers in the Sabbath school to arise. In response to this request almost every delegate arose. There is no doubt but that the great majority of our teachers are Endeavorers. Our Sabbath school teachers come from the Christian Endeavor Society. They are young men and women who are voluntarily pledged to do whatever the Master wants them to do, to read (carefully, thoughtfully, prayerfully), the Bible every day; to attend all the services of the church. What an efficient corps of workers we shall now have for the Sabbath-school. Reading the Bible every day, they shall know the word, and shall be qualified to teach it. These teachers will, moreover, be living witnesses to their pupils of the truth and of Christ. They are trying daily by the help of their Master to do just what He wants them to do. No teaching is so effectual with the child as that which is exemplified by

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Board of Managers: Rev. A. K. Zartman, F. D. Paulus, and D. W. Souder.

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the life of the teacher. And no teaching is so fatal to the child as that which comes from an inconsistent teacher. Give the church consecrated teachers for the Sabbath school then we shall have the assurance that the children will grow up in the fear and nurture of the Lord, and in turn become enthusiastic disciples of the Master. We feel confident that the church which will not avail itself of the inspiration, and the benefits of this movement, will some day have abundant reason to regret its folly. And we shall venture the prophesy that every church member, who will not avail himself of the quickening and reviving power of this movement, shall some day, when the season of refreshing is past, bitterly regret his folly.—It will be well for every church to nurture carefully the Christian Endeavor spirit in its bosom and encourage the society in its midst. The movement promises grand achievements and results for the future church. Let every church and every church-member be sown broad-cast with this spirit of enthusiasm, and activity, and love for the Lord. So shall we hasten the coming of God's kingdom into our own hearts, into our churches and into all the world.

Children's day will be observed Sept. 18th. An interesting program of singing and speaking will be rendered in the evening by the children. In the morning the pastor will preach a sermon to the children. An opportunity will be given to parents for the baptism of children at the morning service. Envelopes will be distributed in due time to the children, members and friends of the church for their offerings on this day.

The annual excursion to Rome City, August 17, was a success, and every person had a good time. Over one hundred went to the lake for an outing, fishing, etc. The majority of the church seem to have a preference to go to this resort for their annual excursion.

OUR CHURCH BUILDING.

The pastor is repeatedly asked by members and friends of the church, whether our auditorium will be built next year. It seems the church is feeling the need of completing our building, and as far as we have been able to ascertain the members of the church are anxious to undertake the work, and are willing to do their part. We have never allowed ourselves to become unduly agitated over this matter. We are trying to divine the signs of Providence in this work. We feel that when the people once have a mind to work, then the project will succeed. To make a success of any church enterprise there must be unanimity of feeling and purpose. It is scarcely probable that in any church, there will be such concert of mind that all will be agreed as to the time when the erection of a church building should be begun. Some people are never ready to begin such a project, simply because they never have it in their hearts to be in readiness. They never aim to be ready. Occasionally there are those who for valid reasons wish to postpone the work until a later date. But it must be remembered that a church cannot delay its work until every person is ready. If this should be done church buildings would never be erected. We recognize the fact that for Grace church to undertake the erection of its main building, will be quite a task. Every one will have to give to the utmost of his ability. We shall have to enter upon this work with a resolute will of carrying it through. It will largely be a work of faith. It is surprising what grand results have been achieved by churches numerically and financially weak. But they were of one mind and worked perseveringly, until they had consummated the purposes of their hearts. This is what we shall have to do, and then we shall not fail in our project. In a very short time a meeting of the congregation will be called to take definite action in reference to building. The pastor has plans to suggest, by which he feels confident the church will be able to begin the work of building by next season. Every member of the church should be at this meeting, as all are equally interested, and we should like the advice of all.

Mrs. D. W. Souder and daughter Carrie remained at Rome City for nearly a week after the excursion.

The lawn social given by the ladies Thursday evening, Aug. 11th, was a very pleasing occasion. The Church parlors and lawn were crowded from an early to a late hour of the evening with a happy company of people, young and old. The Blue Tassel Club discoursed excellent music, and the ladies of the Church were busy serving their cake and cream. Arrangements are in progress to have another of these delightful socials on the church lawn, Thursday evening, Sept. 1st. Vocal and instrumental music will be furnished for the evening, also ice cream and cake. It is the intention of the ladies to make the coming social, even more of a success than the former. The following is the committee appointed for this social: Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Soliday, Mr. and Mrs. James Cristie, Mr. and Mrs. Chadwick, Mrs. Miller, Etta Souder, Katie Snyder, Kittie Vining, Mary Rudisil, Mattie Monn, Berdie Saffern, Katie Pence.

WHAT ALCOHOL WILL DO.—“It may seem strange, but it is nevertheless true, that alcohol, regularly applied to a thrifty farmer's stomach, will remove the boards from the fence, let cattle into his crops, kill his fruit trees, mortgage his farm, and sow his fields with wild oats and thistles. It will take the paint off his building, break the glass out of the windows and fill them with rags. It will take the gloss from his clothes and the polish from his manners, subdue his reason, arouse his passions, bring sorrow and disgrace upon his family, and topple him into a drunkard's grave. It will do this to the artisan and the capitalist, the matron and the maiden, as well as to the farmer; for, in its deadly enmity to the human race, alcohol is no respecter of persons.”—The Temperance Worker.

Persons desiring the services of a pastor for marriages or funerals should give timely notice of their wishes. Pastors are usually very busy, and have many appointments and engagements to meet. Church members are often sorely disappointed because they cannot secure the services of their pastor upon special occasions, owing to the fact that he has made previous engagements and must meet them.

The Blue Tassel Club will furnish the music for the Lawn Social Thursday evening, Sept. 1st. Come and hear them, and have some cream and cake.

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Sabbath evening, - - - - - 7:30
Sunday School, - - - - - 9:30
Y. P. S. C. E. Prayer meeting Sab. evening 6:30
Prayer meeting Wednesday evening - 7:30
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WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

MRS. A. K. ZARTMAN—President.
MRS. F. D. PAULUS—Vice President.
MRS. CHARLES GUMPPER—Secretary.
MRS. M. CONET—Treasurer.

Y. P. S. C. E.

A. K. ZARTMAN—President.
EUGENE MATHIS—Vice President.
NORA RÖMY—Secretary.
EUGENE MATHIS—Treasurer.

Lawn social Thursday evening,
Sept. 1.

Have you paid your subscription
for the VISITOR this year?

Nellie French is visiting friends at
Warsaw for a week or longer.

Children's day, Sept. 18. We shall
hope for liberal offerings on this day.

James Lonergan was at Elkhart,
Ind., Sabbath, Aug. 21st, to visit
friends.

Monthly meeting of Church Con-
sistory Monday evening Sept. 4,
7:30 p. m.

Monthly meeting of the Ladies
Missionary Society Thursday, Sep-
tember 4th, 2:30 p. m.

Mrs. Mathis spent several weeks
with her father and mother at Rome
City, during the time of the Assem-
bly.

Mr. John Golden and Miss Iva D.
Lyons of this city, were married at the
parsonage Saturday morning, Aug.
20th.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Troxal have
removed to new quarters, and their
friends will now find them located at
126 East Washington street.

The pastor's family was out to
spend the afternoon and evening with
Mr. Rudisil upon the occasion of Mr.
Rudisil's 46th birthday anniversary,
Aug. 22.

Mr. and Mrs. Rudisil recently very
kindly remembered the pastor's family
with a supply of potatoes, cabbage,
and a "yellow legged chicken," all of
which are very thankfully received.

The anniversary of the Orphans'
Home, Aug. 24th, was well attended.

It is not yet known what the net re-
ceipts of the day will be. It is evi-
dent that the Home has many warm
friends in the city and abroad.

Mrs. Valentine Monn has been quite
ill. We hope she may soon again re-
gain her health.

Persons desiring to unite with the
church, either by baptism and confir-
mation or by letter, can do so on
Children's Day, Sept. 18th. Appli-
cants for membership should report
to the pastor at an early day.

One-fifth of the population of the
United States pays nine hundred
million dollars for intoxicating
liquors, and the same number of pro-
fessing Christians give five and one-
half millions for sending the gospel
to the heathen.

Good and evil are two distinctively
different roads. Moderate drinking
is an attractive little by-path that
leads from the former to the latter
almost before you are aware of it. It
is a short cut that has cut short many
a promising career.

Charles W. Foucht, of Chicago,
nephew of the pastor, spent Sabbath,
Aug. 21, at the parsonage. Mr.
Foucht has been with the firm of
Marshal Field, of Chicago, for sev-
eral years, and has a very promising
future before him. Young men of
honesty, of enterprise, and above all,
of Christian principle, are always in
demand.

The pastor will begin a series of
Sabbath evening sermons very short-
ly on "Popular Amusements." In
this series he will discuss such topics
as the following: "Dancing," "Thea-
ters," "Card Playing," "Novel Read-
ing," "What Amusements Shall We
Have?" and other popular topics. The
pastor has repeatedly been requested
by parents and young people to preach
upon these subjects, and he hopes
that every member of the church
will be at the services when these
topics will be discussed.

The pastor had the pleasure of
meeting Rev. Elias Spangler of Ed-
gerton, Ohio, at the Orphans' Home
anniversary. Brother Spangler has
not been in the active ministry for a
number of years, but he is preaching
the gospel nevertheless, by his con-
tinued interest in church work and
by his liberality. He is now paying
\$50 a year for the education of a Ja-
panese girl at our school at Sendai.
He is also contributing liberally to
other benevolent objects. The Re-
formed Church needs many more such
generous-hearted men.

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References: The First National or Hamilton
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Y. P. S. C. E. DEPARTMENT.

Prayer Meeting Topics.

August 28. Consecration meeting.
How a Christian can die. Acts 7:54-
60; 1 Cor. 15; 55-57. John Vorder-
mark.

Sept. 4. Prayer and its answers.
Acts 8:15-17; 1 Kings 3:6-14. Mary
Rudisil.

Sept. 11. Preaching to one man.
Acts 8:29-35; John 3:13. Lillie Wal-
ters.

Sept. 18. How can we best help
our church and our pastor this year?
John 15:16; Rom. 12:11. Mrs. Charles
Gumpper.

Sept. 25. Consecration meeting.
Worthy confession. 1 Cor. 11:23-28;
Col. 1: 9-14.

JUNIOR SOCIETY.

August 28. A Christian Hero.
Acts 7:55-60. Georgie Nill.

Sept. 11. Sin. Its effects, its cure.
Temperance meeting. Heb. 10:26-
27; 1 John 3: 1-5. Viola Romy.

Sept. 25. Must I Confess Christ?
Matt. 10:32 33. Rosa Dukeman.

Monthly meeting of the Y. P. S. C.
E. Tuesday evening, September 6th.

Mrs. J. C. Bowser, after a pro-
longed illness of six months or more,
departed this life on Thursday evening,
August 4th. Mrs. Bowser was one of
the oldest citizens of Fort Wayne,
having been a resident of the city for
more than a half a century. She was
well known in the community and
highly respected by all. She was
sympathetic and kind-hearted toward
every person, having been a pro-
fessed child of the Lord for many
years, she confidently commended
herself into the care of her master,
and gave assuring evidence of her
acceptance and of her hope of a
happy life beyond. She was aged 77
years, 3 months and 3 days. The fun-
eral services were held on Monday af-
ternoon, August 8, at the home. Mrs.
Pearce and Miss Sallie Bowser are the
only surviving members of the family.
May the Lord support and comfort
these friends in their bereavement.

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